

REMARKS

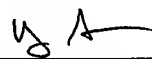
This Response is submitted in reply to the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment dated March 2, 2010. Claims 6 and 18 have been amended. Claims 1 to 5, 10 to 17 and 19 to 44 are cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. No new matter has been added by these amendments. Please charge deposit account 02-1818 for any fees due in connection with this Response.

As discussed during the telephone interview of March 16, 2010, the Examiner indicated that currently amended Claims 6 to 9 and 18 are allowable. As also discussed during the telephone interview, the Examiner indicated that Claims 1 to 5, 10 to 17 and 19 to 44 are unpatentable in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,179,024 and/or U.S. Patent No. 3,540,561. Applicant respectfully disagrees with and traverses that Claims 1 to 5, 10 to 17 and 19 to 44 are unpatentable in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,179,024 and/or U.S. Patent No. 3,540,561. Nevertheless, to advance prosecution of the present application, Applicant has cancelled Claims 1 to 5, 10 to 17 and 19 to 44 without prejudice or disclaimer.

An earnest endeavor has been made to place this application in condition for formal allowance and such action is courteously solicited. If the Examiner has any questions regarding this Response, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: March 23, 2010